

Coastal Engineering Technical Note



BIBLIOGRAPHY ON SEA TURTLES FOR PERSONAL COMPUTERS

<u>PURPOSE</u>: This technical note introduces coastal engineers and biologists to a working bibliography on sea turtles which has been entered into a personal computer bibliographic data base. The use of a personal computer allows for creating, searching, updating, and outputting of bibliographic information in various forms.

INTRODUCTION: Within the Corps of Engineers the need often arises to assess the potential effects of its dredging and construction activities in coastal environments on threatened and endangered sea turtles. To provide the most recent information on the distribution and life history requirements of the five sea turtle species which are found in the United States, an abstracted, indexed bibliography was created for personal computers.

The following species of sea turtles were included in the bibliography: green (Chelonia mydas), loggerhead (Caretta caretta), leatherback (Dermochelys coriacea), hawksbill (Eretmochelys imbricata), and Kemp's ridley (Lepidochelys kempi). Emphasis of the literature search was on U.S. and Caribbean populations; however, other literature was included when the topic was pertinent to the U.S. sea turtle populations. The sources of literature were scientific journals, books, theses, newsletters, government reports, and other miscellaneous reports. Some reports were too extensive or too detailed for a brief abstract. These are indicated in the text as a "book".

The major advantages of using a bibliographic data base compared to a hard copy (printed bibliography) are the ability to continually update the bibliography, search in an assortment of ways, and output in a variety of formats. Currently, the bibliography has about 500 entries and is growing as more literature becomes available. The entries can be searched by any combination of authors, years of publication, reference title, publication title, topic (key word), word(s) in the abstract (comments), or by an

identification number assigned by the data base system. The output can be alphabetized and displayed in the following forms:

Example 1: Short one-line summary (80 characters).

IDAUTHORTITLE OF ARTICLEPUBLICATIONYEAR119Ehrhart,LMThe effects of beach restoration onUS Army Corp1983

Example 2: Long one-line summary (128 characters).

119 Ehrhart,LM The effects of beach restoration US Army Corp 1983 on nest success

Example 3: Summary with no comments.

Authors = Ehrhart, LM; Raymond, PW

Article = The effects of beach restoration on marine turtles nesting in South Brevard County, Florida.

Volume = Year = 1983 Pages = 47

Journal = US Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District

Topics = restoration; nest success; loggerhead; Florida

Example 4: Summary with comments (abstract)

Authors = Ehrhart, LM; Raymond, PW

Article = The effects of beach restoration on marine turtles nesting in South Brevard County, Florida

Volume = Year = 1983 Pages = 47

Journal = US Army Engineers, Jacksonville District

Topics = restoration; nest success; loggerhead; Florida

Comments = A study was conducted on Indialalantic and Melbourne Beach, Florida to investigate the effects of beach restoration on marine turtle nesting during the summer months of 1981 and 1982. The nesting success rates (nesting emergences/total emergences v 100) for 1981 on the control beaches were 54% and 51% respectively, whereas the restored beach had a significantly lower nesting success of 28%. This reduction of nesting success was attributed to a compact substrate that was markedly less friable than sands of the control beach. By the following summer, the restored beach substrate was less compact. No significant differences were found for hatch

success or hatchling emergence success between the restored beach and control beaches.

Example 5: Formatted for publication.

Ehrhart, L.M. and P. W. Raymond. 1983. The effects of beach restoration on marine turtles nesting in South Brevard County, Florida. US Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, Contract Report No. DACW17-81-C-0014, 47 pp.

The format for publication can be determined by the user. Page size, line spacing, punctuation, order of information, and abbreviations can be selected by the user.

COMPATIBILITY AND SOFTWARE: The entries are stored on 360K double-density floppy disks formatted in MS-DOS (PC-DOS). The information is managed with REF-11 Data Base Management System for references designed to run on 1.1 or later versions of PC-DOS for IBM or IBM compatible personal computers. The reference software requires 160K bytes of memory for operation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Further details for obtaining the sea turtle bibliography in the various printed formats or on floppy disks are available from Mr. David Nelson at (601] 634-3816 and Ms. Jerry Sims (601) 634-3986 both of the Coastal Ecology Group, Environmental Laboratory, Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

REFERENCES:

Nelson, D. A., and Sims, J. 1985. "A Selected Bibliography of Sea Turtles of the United States," U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Nelson, D. A. 1985. "Life History and Environmental Requirements of Loggerhead Sea Turtles," Technical Report 85-, U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.